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## **MAJOR DRUG SUPPLIER AND TWO CO-DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY TO TRAFFICKING CHARGES**

*Defendants responsible for trafficking of drugs  
in Shreveport area for 10 years*

**Shreveport, Louisiana** . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced that **WALLACE EDWARDS a/k/a “Gator,”** age 43, **KERRY BAKER a/k/a “Spud,”** age 37, and **MICHAEL WILLIAMS a/k/a “Spider Mike,”** age 45, all of Shreveport, Louisiana, have pleaded guilty before United States District Judge S. Maurice Hicks, Jr. to drug trafficking charges.

An indictment was returned in August 2006 charging EDWARDS, BAKER and WILLIAMS with conspiracy and possession with intent to distribute cocaine powder; conspiracy and possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, possession of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking crimes and forfeiture.

EDWARDS pleaded guilty today to conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine powder and forfeiture.

BAKER pled guilty on September 8, 2006 to conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug

trafficking crime, and forfeiture. WILLIAMS pled guilty on September 12, 2006 to conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine.

As a result of their guilty pleas, EDWARDS and BAKER will forfeit approximately \$25,000 in cash which was seized at the time of their arrest.

The sentencing for EDWARDS has been set for January 5, 2007 at 2:00. BAKER and WILLIAMS will be sentenced on December 13 and 14, 2006.

EDWARDS and BAKER each face a sentence of 10 years to life in prison, a \$4,000,000 fine, or both. Due to the fact that WILLIAMS has a prior drug felony conviction, he faces a sentence of 20 years to life in prison, a \$8,000,000 fine, or both. Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. United States Sentencing Guidelines established by the United States Congress and the United States Sentencing Commission are only used as guidelines by the judge in determining the appropriate sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was investigated by the Caddo-Shreveport Narcotics Unit, which includes officers from the Shreveport Police Department and Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office, and by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney James G. Cowles, Jr.

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